



By the King.

# A PROCLAMATION

For quieting the Post-Master General in the Execution of his Office.

CHARLES R.



Whereas We have by Our Letters Patents under Our Great Seal, Constituted and Appointed Our Right Trusty and Well-beloved Councillour, Henry Lord Arlington, Our Post-Master General, to perform and execute all and every the Powers mentioned in a late Act of Parliament, touching the Erecting and Setting an Office of Post-Master General: And whereas the Secret and Indirect Conveyance of Letters, by ways unlawfull, and unauthorized, both not only tend to the diminution of Our Revenue, by lessening the Office of Post-Master General, but may be a means to promote seditious Designs, and to disturb the Peace of Our Realm: We have thought fit therefore by this Our Proclamation, to advertise all and singular Our good Subjects of their Duty, and to require their Obedience accordingly. And We do hereby strictly Prohibit and forbid all and singular person and persons whatsoever (other then the said Henry Lord Arlington, his Deputies, Servants, or Assigns, directly or indirectly) to do, execute, perform, or intrude themselves to have any employment in, or about any thing which ought to be done by him the said Henry Lord Arlington, his Deputies, Servants, or Assigns, without his the said Henry Lord Arlingtons Deputation, Licence, or Allowance, upon pain of Our displeasure, and such other penalty, as may be inflicted upon the Offenders, for contempt of this Our Royal Commandment, and of the said Act of Parliament. And that the said Henry Lord Arlington, his Deputies, Servants, and Assigns may the better attend the Service and Duty of the said Office of Post-Master General, We do hereby further declare Our Royal Will and Pleasure to be, That the said Henry Lord Arlington, his Deputies, Servants, and Assigns, shall be from henceforth freed, exempted, and discharged of, and from serving upon all Juries, Inquests, Quarters, or any other publick Employments, or Attendances, that may any way impede, retard, or prejudice the

execution of his or their Duty and Service in the said Office; and that he and they shall have and enjoy all such Priviledges, as have been formerly granted by any of Our Royal Ancestors unto the Masters of their Ports, and Servants. And We do further expressly Will and Command by these Presents, all Mayors, Sheriffs, Justices of the Peace, Constables, Bayliffs, all Searchers of our Ports, and all other Our Officers and Ministers wheresoever, within their feveral Jurisdictions and Offices, from time to time to make diligent search for all Hales, Bonnets, and other Carriages of all such disallowed and unlicensed Carriers and Messengers, or other suspected persons, carrying Pacquets or Letters from place to place, within Our said Realms and Dominions, or coming in or going out of this Realm, to or from any other Kingdoms or Countreys, contrary to the Tenor of the said Act of Parliament, and the Rights and Priviledges of the Post-Master General therein declared and established; and to seize all and every such Hales and Pacquets of Letters, which shall be found in the hands of persons, not having lawful Warrant or Authority from Our Post-Master General for the time being to carry the same; and the said Hales or Pacquets of Letters, together with the names of the persons so as aforesaid presuming to convey them, immediately to send up, and certify to our Privy Council. And We do further Will and Command, That all Letters and Pacquets that shall be brought to any Port-Town within Our Dominions, or any the Members thereof, by the Master of any Ship or Vessel, or any his Company or Passengers therein (other then such Letters as are in the said Act excepted, or may be sent by common known Carriers, or by a Friend in manner as in the said Act is expressed) shall by such Master, Passenger, or other person be forthwith delivered unto the Deputy or Deputies only of the Post-Master General for the time being, appointed for the said Port-Town, and by him or them to be sent Post to the General Letter Office, to be delivered according to the feveral and respective directions of the same, according to the Purport and Intent of the said Act of Parliament in that behalf.

Given at Our Court at Whitehall, the 26<sup>th</sup> day of July, 1667. in the Nineteenth year of Our Reign.

God save the King.

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In the *SAVOY*,

Printed by the Assigns of *John Bill* and *Christopher Barker*, Printers to  
the Kings most Excellent Majesty. 1667.